



WE CHANGE LIVES....NEW BEGINNINGS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Spring 2010

# Aurora's Diamonds in the Rough

Poetry and Prose by the Women of Aurora House

Writing Workshop Director : Jane Bradley

## COURTROOM

When I'm in the worst place I can think of,  
 I'm in the courtroom.  
 I see a judge, the prosecutor, my lawyer.  
 I hear custody being granted to my father.  
 I smell sweat.  
 I taste my tears.  
 I feel lost, confused, hate, anger,  
 Like getting high.

When I'm in the best place I can think of,  
 I'm in the courtroom.  
 I see a judge, the prosecutor, my lawyer,  
 My baby girl.  
 I hear custody being granted to me!  
 I smell her hair as I give her a kiss on the forehead.  
 I taste my tears.  
 I feel happy and complete.

*Storm*



## MOTHERLESS CHILD

When I'm in the worst place I can think of  
 I'm a 5 year old little girl again.  
 I see my mother fighting with her boyfriend  
 And the fighting ending with my mom  
 Being thrown out the window.  
 I hear screaming coming from a crowd of people.  
 I smell urine from the project hallways.  
 I feel confused because I don't understand  
 What just happened and why  
 Everyone is so sad.

When I'm in the best place I can think of  
 I'm in my own home.  
 I see my 4 kids and my husband  
 I hear laughter  
 I smell Sunday dinner being prepared  
 I feel like a family again.

*Joyana*



# From the Director's Desk...



## TO AURORA HOUSE SUPPORTERS:

Many wonderful things have taken place at Aurora over the past few months and we would like to share some of this good news with you. In the fall of 2009, Aurora was selected to be a Leadership Toledo Project. Aurora requested guidance and assistance in developing a story board, brochures, an informational DVD and website. Over the past 8 months, Aurora staff has been working with the group to complete this task. I am pleased to announce that this project was completed in May and our website is open for business! Though we are still modifying components of our site, please visit Aurora at: [www.auroraprojectinc.org](http://www.auroraprojectinc.org).

In addition to this great news, students of UT professor, Ms. Jane Bradley, facilitated creative writing classes for Aurora residents. The classes were held for eight weeks and culminated with a poetry reading held at Ground Level Coffee. Though nervous, our ladies did a great job sharing their poems, which revealed many aspects of their lives that had been hidden away for years. The creative writing classes not only benefited Aurora's women but had an impact on the students as well. The impact was so strong that some of Ms. Bradley's students have volunteered to continue working with our ladies throughout the summer!

Aurora is extremely grateful to these two groups and all of our volunteers, for their efforts on behalf of our families! Agencies such as ours rely heavily on volunteers to work on projects necessary for the day-to-day operations of the organization. We could not do our "good work" without your good work!

### Denise



Adrianna with our new Hoover Sweeper and Doreen using our new Vita Mix Machine. Thank you to both companies!



**WANT A MEANINGFUL PROJECT FOR YOUR CHURCH OR GROUP?  
 SPONSOR A KITCHEN , BATH, OR BABY SHOWER  
 COOK DINNER OR PLAN A GAME NIGHT  
 SPONSOR AN OUTING AT A LOCAL VENUE; BALL GAME, ZOO,  
 AMUSEMENT PARK, OR THEATER  
 CALL JENIFER FOR DETAILS 419-244-3200**

## WISH LIST ITEMS

- BABY/TODDLER NEEDS**  
 Diapers sizes 2,3,4, & 5  
 Pull Ups 2T-3T and 3T-4T  
 Diaper wipes  
 Pedialyte  
 New sippy cups  
 Crib sheets  
 Enfamil formula  
 Car seats  
 Booster seats

- PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**  
 Hair Spray  
 Mousse  
 Sunscreen  
 Nail Polish remover  
 Pumice Stones  
 Foot Powder  
 Flip Flops (all sizes)  
 Olive Oil hair sheen spray  
 Acne Cream

- MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**  
 Gift Bags  
 AAA Batteries  
 D Batteries  
 Postage Stamps  
 Insulated lunch bags  
 13 gallon trash bags  
 Kleenex  
 Water bottles

- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**  
 Skillets  
 Liquid hand soap  
 Laundry detergent  
 Kitchen utensils  
 Fabric softener sheets  
 Dish liquid  
 Kitchen Towels  
 Ziploc sandwich bags  
 Casserole dishes  
 Bath Towels

*Gift cards and cash are always welcome.  
 Please make checks payable to Aurora Project.*

# AURORA HAPPENINGS



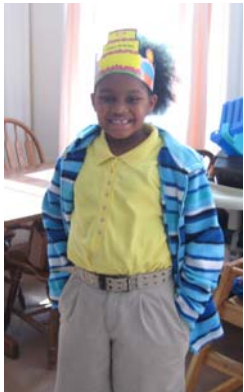
ANNIE HOLLENBECK PUTS THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON HER UPDATE OF AURORA ROOM # 3. HER MOTHER PAM AND FRIEND MATTHEW HELPED WITH THE PROJECT.



MELBA CELEBRATES HER ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY WITH AURORA



Happy Eighth Birthday to Makeyla!!



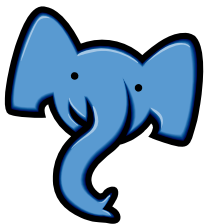
TOYANA PROUDLY DISPLAYS HER COMPASS GRADUATION DIPLOMA WITH HER SONS DARIO AND DARION



AURORA FAMILIES ATTEND STARS ON ICE AS THE GUESTS OF THE HUNTINGTON CENTER ARENA



PREVENT BLINDNESS OHIO INVITED AURORA CHILDREN AND MOTHERS TO A FUN FILLED EVENING AT THE IMAGINATION STATION



JUSTIN DAVIS WINNING A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF FISHER PRICE TOYS AT BABY LOUIE'S 7TH BIRTHDAY PARTY AT THE TOLEDO ZOO



THE COMEDY CLUB HOSTED OUR LADIES FOR A NIGHT OF FUN.

# WE THANK THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS.

Anonymous  
Adams Street Publishing Co.  
American Legion Post 110  
Judith Anderson  
Alan Arvay  
Lewis Baker  
Sheree Bargabos  
Belinda Benore  
Thomas Bixler  
Bock, Korsnack & Hinds, Inc.  
Joanne Bowman  
Jon Brossia  
Gene and Marilyn Burke  
Orion and Rennetta Cathcart  
Chicos  
Lorraine Coe  
Mary Coleman  
Joanne Combs  
Angel Cooper  
Corpus Christi Parish  
Delores Czerniak  
William and Carol Dejong  
James Drew  
Laura Elliot  
Exchange Club of Greater  
Maumee Bay  
Ethan Fisher  
Chris and Dorey Fox  
Phyllis Garmon  
Ruth Garmon  
Jean Gillen  
Pete and Becca Gorman  
Richard and Christine Gunther  
Matt and Sue Hartman  
HCR ManorCare  
Patricia Henry  
Paul and Pam Hollenbeck  
Holy Trinity Catholic Parish  
Katrina Iott and Albert Lewis  
Marilyn Jensen  
Jerl Machine  
Sheila Johnson  
Daniel Klein  
Ravi and Bharati Kodali  
Kraft Foods Flour Mill  
Josh and Itzel Krauss  
Harriet Lehman  
Local 14 UAW  
Andrea Loch  
Janet Loch  
George and Nancy Lowdermilk  
Lucas County Auditor  
Richard and Sheri Luedtke  
Doug and Jan Martin  
Paul and Beatrice Martin  
Bob and Kathie Maxwell

Jill McCreedy  
Kandy McGill  
Mercy Hospital  
James Metcalfe  
Rhoda Miller  
Modern Woodmen  
Sherry Moon  
Richard and Mary Morgan  
Shelly Murnen-Rice  
Michael and Judith Murphy  
Julie Murray  
Christine Myers  
Peggy Nichols  
Holly Oberhouse  
Our Lady of The Pines  
Debra Piechocki  
James Pohlman  
Bernadine Powell  
Orie Preston  
R & N Rentals  
Sandy Reiter  
Amanda Rice  
Kent Riesen  
Myron Robinson  
Donald Schieferstein  
Max and June Seigneur  
Jan Seiling  
Sisters of Notre Dame  
Jenifer Skelding  
Jeffrey and Susan Smith  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
St. Pius School  
Linda Stacy  
Rick and Sue Stokes  
Steve and Jennifer Swartz  
Swiss Ladies Toledo Society #76  
Roseann Taylor  
Timberlake Community Church  
Patti Tressler  
Scott and Margy Trumbull  
Heather Turner  
Joy Vickers  
David and Dawn Weaver  
Jennifer Wenzke  
Roland Wilson  
Christine Wood  
Dana Wright  
Peggy Youssef  
Mary Zraik

## IN KIND DONATIONS

Adams Street Publishing Co.  
Eileen Angell  
Angels Touch  
Linsey Ansberg  
Anspach, Meeks, Ellenberger  
BGSU When You Move Out Program  
Janice Baker  
Barbara Berry  
Gerald and Pauline Biernacki  
Rita Carter  
Marty Collum and Lisa Obbish  
Sonya Coogler  
Corpus Christi University Parish  
Mary Beth DeMatteo  
Glendale Feilbach Families  
Handbags of Hope  
Annie Hollenbeck  
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
Hoover  
Jeep Women's Committee  
Marilyn Jensen  
Jerl Machine  
Robert Julius and Jean Kay  
Kroger  
Chris Kwiatkowski  
Libbey Glass  
Susan Martin  
Modern Woodmen  
Notre Dame Academy  
Oregon Municipal Court  
Penta Career Center  
Penta County  
Precious Stones BGSU  
Kent Riesen  
Robert Robinson and Chris McMahon  
Barbara Sackman  
Brooke Schmitz  
Sarah Shanahan  
Bob and Nancy Slykhuis  
St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Church  
St. Paul's Maumee MOPS  
Mary Strader  
The Avenue  
Toledo First 7th Day Adventist Church  
Sydney Unverferth  
VitaMix  
Jean Voegeli  
Mike and Christi Wagner  
Leslie Woldenbery  
Bruce Wyre and Deb Dauer

## MOTHER'S DAY DONATIONS

### In Memory Of

**Angeline Calvin**  
Stephanie Setmire

**Kathryn Fox**  
Denise Fox

**Marilyn Iott**  
Katrina Iott and Albert Lewis

**Jeanelle Kline**  
Mr. and Mrs. George Gibson

**Grayce Kunkel**  
Paula Compton

**Francis Lewis**  
Katrina Iott and Albert Lewis

**K. McDevitt**  
Barbara Garwood

**Iris Miller**  
Rhoda Miller

**Anna Panning**  
Denise Fox

**Margaret Wenzel**  
Denise Fox

**Sally Wexler**  
Rhoda Miller

### In Honor Of

**Helen Biedenbarn**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Biedenbarn

**Candy Gillen**  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gillen

**Theresa Hough**  
Mr. and Mrs. Chad Julian

**Betty Kessler**  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Ranallo

**DeLoris Panning**  
Denise Fox

**Joanne Ramisch**  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gillen

**Elizabeth Schuck**  
Carol Scheiber

**Kathryn Wischmeyer**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Biedenbarn

## DONATIONS

### In Honor Of

**50th Anniversary of  
Charles and Judy Nussbaum**  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nussbaum  
Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Siebeneck  
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Verhoff  
Mr. and Mrs. James Recker  
Patrick Kidd  
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Gilles  
Unnamed Others

**God**  
Cynthia Nearhood

**Nick Klinkenberg**  
Gene and Terri Zmuda

### In Memory Of

**Jackie Arnold**  
Rose Murphy

**Nicholas Hadeed**  
Melanie Hadeed

**Sagana Hill**  
Carol Hill

**James Millon**  
Lynne Barefoot

**John McGovern**  
Rosemary McGovern

**Sister Dorothy Nussbaum**  
Mary Gerrish

**Stacey Ridnour**  
Broadway Tax Service  
Mr. and Mrs. David Coon  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grimes  
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Phillips  
Margaret Russ

## SPECIAL THANKS TO.....

- ◆ Sisters of Notre Dame for their retreat at Lial
- ◆ Judy Cecere our personal Cookie Lady who delivers weekly
- ◆ United Way
- ◆ Toledo Community Foundation
- ◆ Marsha Molnar and Nancy Gates for their parenting classes
- ◆ Sister Antoni for her time at the front desk
- ◆ Taste of the Nation volunteers for all their hard work
- ◆ Jen McCullough of Integration Yoga Studio for her weekly class
- ◆ Carol Schreiber and Kathy Page our computer instructors
- ◆ Richard Losie-Rife from Goodwill for teaching life skills
- ◆ Garden Park Church for picking up for church services and everything else they have done for us
- ◆ Fisher-Price for their generous donation of toys as part of the Toledo Zoo's celebration of Baby Louie's 7th Birthday Celebration
- ◆ Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church for their ongoing generosity to our residents



A TEAM FROM LEADERSHIP TOLEDO CREATED MARKETING PIECES FOR AURORA INCLUDING A NEW WEBSITE DESIGN, STORY BOARD, AGENCY BROCHURE, AND DVD. THE TEAM INCLUDED DAVE CROCI, MELISSA MAHONEY, MARKUS JOHNSON, AILEEN MEYER, MARK OZIMEK, AND LAKE-SHIA WIMBERLY. PHOTO AT THE LEFT SHOWS THE PRESENTATION OF THE STORY BOARD BY THE COMMITTEE TO THEIR PEERS. A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- ◆ **DESIGNPIX STUDIO**
- ◆ **SIGN PRO**
- ◆ **BROOKE SCHMITZ PHOTOGRAPHY**
- ◆ **H.I. THOMAS CONSULTING GROUP**

FOR THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT. AURORA IS VERY APPRECIATIVE OF THEIR WORK.



RACING FOR RECOVERY® SPONSORS A SUPPORT MEETING EVERY SATURDAY FOR OUR AURORA RESIDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. RECENTLY, THE LADIES WERE SPECIAL GUESTS OF RACING FOR RECOVERY'S FOUNDER, TODD CRANDELL TO THE SCREENING OF "RUNNING WITH DEMONS" A FILM CHRONICLING TODD'S LIFE FROM ADDICTION TO IRONMAN. RACING FOR RECOVERY HAS BEEN A DRIVING FORCE AT AURORA, BENEFITING NOT ONLY THE WOMEN, BUT ALSO THEIR FAMILIES AS WELL. THE WOMEN WERE SURPRISED AS A HUMMER LIMOUSINE PICKED THEM UP FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT. THE LADIES ENJOYED THIS FUNCTION AND CONTINUE TO SUPPORT RACING FOR RECOVERY.

TODD CRANDELL IS THE FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF RACING FOR RECOVERY®, A NON-PROFIT FOUNDATION WITH THE MISSION OF PREVENTING SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND OFFERING A POSITIVE ALTERNATIVE TO THOSE CURRENTLY BATTLING ADDICTION.

# MORE AURORA ACTIVITIES



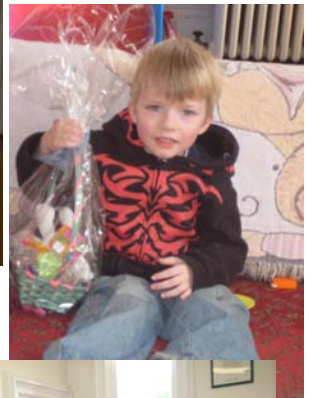
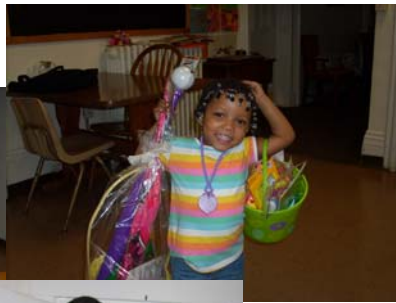
The Kroger Company provided balloons for our residents on Valentines Day



JENN MCCULLOUGH TEACHES YOGA AT AURORA



Easter at Aurora



## AURORA POETRY READERS



Mike Kimmel delivers bouquets of flowers to our ladies for Mother's Day from our Friends at The Kroger Company!



# 17th Annual Aurora Golf Scramble

Monday August 23, 2010

## BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB

29601 Bates Road Perrysburg, Ohio

ORGANIZE A FOURSOME AND JOIN US AT ONE OF TOLEDO'S PREMIER GOLF COURSES FOR A DAY OF GOLF, FOOD, RAFFLES, PRIZES, AND SKILLS CHALLENGES!

### Premier Event Sponsorship.....\$2,500

Two foursomes; exclusive name inclusion in Event Title on all marketing pieces; large banner and signage throughout the event site; logo on any collateral items; front cover of the program; table tents on each table and in the bar area, prominent recognition in the Fall 2010 Aurora House newsletter (mailed to approx. 2,500 individuals and businesses in the Toledo area), recognition on Aurora website, hole sign, sponsor /merchandise table.

### Platinum Event Sponsorship.....\$1,500

Event Sponsorship—One foursome; large banner and signage throughout the event site; inside front cover of the program; table tents on each table and in the bar area, recognition in the Fall 2010 Aurora House newsletter (mailed to approx. 2,500 individuals and businesses in the Toledo area), recognition on Aurora website, hole sign.

### Gold Event Sponsorship.....\$1,000

Co-Sponsorship -One foursome; large banner at event registration; specific areas of event site; center spot in the program; table tents on each table and in the bar area, recognition in the Fall 2010 Aurora House newsletter (mailed to approx. 2,500 individuals and businesses in the Toledo area), recognition on Aurora website, hole sign.

### Silver Event Sponsorship.....\$750

Supporting Sponsor One foursome; recognition in the program; recognition in Fall 2010 Aurora House newsletter (mailed to approx. 2,500 individuals and businesses in the Toledo area), recognition on Aurora website, hole sign.

### Golf Cart Sponsorship.....\$300

Name recognition on each golf cart, in the program, and in the Fall 2010 newsletter.

### Beverage Cart Sponsorship.....\$250

Name recognition on the beverage cart, in the program, and in the Fall 2010 newsletter.

### Tee/Hole Sponsorships.....\$100

Name recognition at the tee/green, in the program and Fall 2010 newsletter.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$125.00 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$500.00 Foursome

INCLUDES DRIVING RANGE, GOLF, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND DELICIOUS LUNCHEON BUFFET

**Sorry, I cannot participate this year,  
but I want to support Aurora!**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$125.00 SPONSOR A GOLFER

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Friend of Aurora

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Aurora Project, Inc.

### SPECIAL EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

**\$450 FOURSOME - \$50 OFF!**

(Offer good until July 1, 2010 -  
checks must be received no later than 7/1/10)

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsorship Package: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I want to reserve a FOURSOME \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be an Individual GOLFER \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Credit Card Information:

Credit Card Type (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard / Visa

Name (as it appears on card) \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### TEAM MEMBER NAMES

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
TOLEDO, OH  
PERMIT 1028

Aurora Project, Inc.  
1035 North Superior  
Toledo, OH 43604  
Office 419-244-3200  
Fax 419-244-3291  
www.auroraprojectinc.org

**Aurora Board of Trustees**

Doug Martin, President  
Paul R. Hollenbeck, Vice President  
Michele Murnen-Rice &  
Tina Orr, Co-Secretaries  
Christi Wagner, Treasurer

Dee Haack  
Tim Harshman  
Marsha Molnar  
Tom Peternel  
Kent Riesen  
Robert Robinson  
Linda Stacy  
Angela Hoskins  
*Denise F. Fox, Executive Director*  
*Rhoda Miller, Development Director*

Aurora Project, Inc., is a comprehensive housing and life skills program that empowers homeless women and their children to achieve self sufficiency and independence by providing resources and learning opportunities in a supportive and safe environment.

**SAVE THESE DATES!**

**AUGUST 23 17TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING AT BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB**

AURORA'S SIGNATURE EVENT AT BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB  
RESERVE A SPOT FOR YOUR FOURSOME BY JULY 1 AND SAVE \$50  
FILL OUT AND RETURN THE REGISTRATION FORM ON THE PRECEDING PAGE

**SEPTEMBER 27 CELEBRITY WAIT NIGHT AT LA SCOLA RESTAURANT**

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND JOIN THE FUN  
ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL WHILE YOU SERVE AS THE HOST FOR YOUR TABLE  
ALL GRATUITIES WILL BENEFIT AURORA

**SEPTEMBER 21 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON**

AURORA'S OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE 2009-2010 VOLUNTEERS  
JOIN US FOR LUNCH ON THE LAWN AT AURORA  
MEET OUR RESIDENTS AND TOUR OUR HOUSE

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2011**  
**AURORA'S TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY GALA**